

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) [~~A central hub for receiving a sprinkler head, the central hub comprising:~~
~~—— a plate; and~~
~~—— a sleeve attached to the plate, the sleeve being adapted to receive a sprinkler head]] A fire-protection sprinkler support system comprising:
—— a hub configured to receive a fire protection sprinkler head, which is connected to a flexible conduit;
—— a leg attached to the hub;
—— a fastening device for removably attaching the leg to a T-bar grid of a suspended ceiling, the fastening device comprising:
—— a first portion having a generally vertically extending sidewall with a lower end configured for engaging one side of the T-bar grid;
—— a second portion spaced by a gap from the first portion, the second portion having a generally vertically extending sidewall with a lower end configured for engaging an opposite side of the T-bar grid; and
—— an upper attachment portion operatively connecting the first portion to the second portion;
—— the first and second portions configured to move relative to each other to secure the leg to the T-bar grid.~~

2. (New) The support system of claim 1 wherein the first portion comprises a tongue configured as a cantilever spring and the second member comprises a frame structure extending around the tongue.
3. (New) The support system of claim 1 wherein the sidewall of the first and second portions have inwardly protruding portions for retaining the T-bar grid to the fastening device.
4. (New) The support system of claim 1 further comprising a second leg attached to the hub.
5. (New) The support system of claim 1 wherein the hub defines an annular opening configured to receive the fire-protection sprinkler head.
6. (New) The support system of claim 1 wherein the hub defines a circular opening configured to receive the fire-protection sprinkler head.
7. (New) The support system of claim 1 wherein the hub comprises a plate and a sleeve, the sleeve defining an opening configured to receive the fire-protection sprinkler head.
8. (New) The support system of claim 7 wherein the plate includes a plurality of sleeves.

9. (New) The support system of claim 1 wherein the hub comprises a plate and a sleeve, the sleeve being an opening configured to receive the fire-protection sprinkler head.
10. (New) The support system of claim 9 wherein the plate includes a plurality of sleeves.
11. (New) The support system of claim 7 wherein the plate is attached to the leg with a fixing device configured to allow the position of the plate along the length of the leg to be adjusted.
12. (New) The support system of claim 1 further comprising a flexible sprinkler assemblage, the flexible sprinkler assemblage comprising:
 - the flexible conduit; and
 - a fitting attached to the flexible conduit; and the sprinkler head attached to the fitting.
13. (New) The support system of claim 1 wherein the fastening device is configured to allow the position of the support system to slidably move along the T-bar grid.
14. (New) The support system of claim 1 wherein the fastening devices configured to remain fastened to the T-bar grid during a seismic event measuring 3.5 or greater on the richter scale.
15. (New) The support system of claim 1 wherein the fastening device includes a clip.

16. (New) The support system of claim 1 further comprising a rod having a first end attached to the support system and a second end attached to a building component.

17. (New) The support system of claim 16 wherein the first end of the rod is attached to the hub.

18. (New) A method of removably attaching a fire-protection sprinkler support system to a T-bar grid of a suspended ceiling, the method comprising:

- providing a hub configured to receive a fire protection sprinkler head, which is connected to a flexible conduit;

- attaching a leg to the hub; and

- providing a fastening device comprising:

- a first portion having a generally downwardly extending sidewall with a lower end configured for engaging one side of the T-bar grid;

- a second portion spaced by a gap from the first portion, the second portion having a generally downwardly extending sidewall with a lower end configured for engaging an opposite side of the of the T-bar grid; and

- an upper attachment portion operatively connecting the first portion to the second portion;

- attaching the fastening device to the T-bar grid of the suspended ceiling.

19. (New) The method of claim 18 comprising providing a tongue configured as a cantilever spring to the first portion comprises and providing a frame structure configured to extend around the tongue to the second portion.

20. (New) The method of claim 18 comprising providing inwardly protruding portions to the sidewalls of the first and second portions for retaining the T-bar grid to the fastening device.
21. (New) The method of claim 18 further comprising providing a second leg attached to the hub.
22. (New) The method of claim 18 further comprising providing the hub with an annular opening configured to receive the fire-protection sprinkler head.
23. (New) The method of claim 18 further comprising providing the hub with a circular opening configured to receive the fire-protection sprinkler head.
24. (New) The method of claim 18 further comprising providing the hub with a plate and a sleeve, the sleeve defining an opening configured to receive the fire-protection sprinkler head.
25. (New) The method of claim 24 further comprising providing the plate with a plurality of sleeves.
26. (New) The method of claim 18 further comprising providing the hub with a plate and a sleeve, the sleeve being an opening configured to receive the fire-protection sprinkler head.
27. (New) The method of claim 26 further comprising providing the plate with a plurality of sleeves.

28. (New) The method of claim 24 further comprising attaching the plate to the leg with a fixing device configured to allow the position of the plate along the length of the leg to be adjusted.
29. (New) The method of claim 18 further comprising providing a flexible sprinkler assemblage, the flexible sprinkler assemblage including the flexible conduit; and
attaching a fitting the flexible conduit; and
attaching the sprinkler head to the fitting.
30. (New) The method of claim 27 wherein the fastening device is configured to allow the position of the support system to slidably move along the T-bar grid.
31. (New) The method of claim 18 wherein the fastening device is configured to remain attached to the T-bar grid during a seismic event measuring 3.5 or greater on the richter scale.
32. (New) The method of claim 18 providing the fastening device with a clip.
33. (New) The method of claim 18 further comprising attaching a first end of a rod to the support system and attaching a second end of the rod to a building component.
34. (New) A fire-protection sprinkler support system comprising:
a plate and sleeve defining an opening extending through the plate, the sleeve configured to receive a fire protection sprinkler head which is connected to a flexible conduit,
a fastening device configured to removably attach the sprinkler support system to a T-bar grid of a suspended ceiling, each fastening device comprising:

a first portion having a generally vertically extending sidewall with a lower end configured for engaging one side of the T-bar grid;

a second portion spaced by a gap from the first portion, the second portion having a generally vertically extending sidewall with a lower end configured for engaging an opposite side of the T-bar grid;

an upper attachment portion operatively connecting the first portion to the second portion;

the first and second portions configured to move relative to each other to secure the leg to the T-bar grid.

35. (New) The support system of claim 34 wherein the first portion comprises a tongue configured as a cantilever spring and the second portion comprises a frame structure extending around the tongue.

36. (New) The support system of claim 34 wherein the sidewall of the first and second portions have inwardly protruding portions for retaining the T-bar grid to the fastening device.

37. (New) The support system of claim 34 wherein the sleeve comprises a first sleeve section and second sleeve section attached to the plate; and the first and second sections are joined by a connection, the connection being configured to allow the first and second sections to separate to receive the fire protection sprinkler head.

38. (New) The support system of claim 34 wherein the sleeve defines an annular opening configured to receive the fire-protection sprinkler head.

39. (New) The support system of claim 34 wherein the sleeve defines a circular opening configured to receive the fire-protection sprinkler head.
40. (New) The support system of claim 34 wherein the plate and sleeve are an opening extending through the plate, the sleeve configured to receive the fire-protection sprinkler head.
41. (New) The support system of claim 34 wherein the plate includes a plurality of sleeves.
42. (New) The support system of claim 40 wherein the plate includes a plurality of sleeves.
43. (New) The support system of claim 34 wherein the plate is attached to a leg with a fixing device configured to allow the position of the plate along the length of the leg to be adjusted.
44. (New) The support system of claim 34 further comprising a flexible sprinkler assemblage, the flexible sprinkler assemblage comprising:
the flexible conduit; and
a fitting attached to the flexible conduit; and the sprinkler head attached to the fitting.
45. (New) The support system of claim 34 wherein the fastening devices configured to allow the position of the support system to slidably move along the T-bar grid.

46. (New) The support system of claim 34 wherein the fastening device is configured to remain fastened to the T-bar grid during a seismic event measuring 3.5 or greater on the richter scale.

47. (New) The support system of claim 34 wherein the fastening device includes a clip.

48. (New) The support system of claim 34 further comprising a rod having a first end attached to the support system and a second end attached to a building component.

49. (New) The support system of claim 48 wherein the first end of the rod is attached to the plate.

50. (New) A method of removably attaching a fire-protection sprinkler support system to a T-bar grid of a suspended ceiling, the method comprising:

providing a plate and sleeve defining an opening extending through the plate, the sleeve configured to receive a fire protection sprinkler head which is connected to a flexible conduit; and

providing a fastening device configured to removably attach the sprinkler support system to the T-bar grid, the fastening device comprising:

a first portion having a generally vertically extending sidewall with a lower end configured for engaging one side of the T-bar grid;

a second portion spaced by a gap from the first portion, the second portion having a generally downwardly extending sidewall with a lower end configured for engaging an opposite side of the T-bar grid;

an upper attachment portion operatively connecting the first portion to the second portion;

a gap separating the first and second portions, the first portion being adapted to move relative to the second portion to vary the gap, the gap configured to receive at least a portion of the support rail;

attaching the fastening device to the T-bar grid of the suspended ceiling.

51. (New) The method of claim 50 comprising:

providing a tongue to the first portion, the tongue configured as a cantilever spring; and

providing to the second portion a frame structure extending around the tongue.

52. (New) The method of claim 50 comprising providing to the sidewalls of the first and second portions inwardly protruding portions for retaining the T-bar grid to the fastening device.

53. (New) The method of claim 50 further comprising providing to the sleeve a first sleeve section and a second sleeve section attached to the plate; the first and second sections being joined by a connection, the connection configured to allow the first and second sections to separate to receive the fire protection sprinkler head.

54. (New) The method of claim 50 wherein the sleeve defines an annular opening configured to receive the fire-protection sprinkler head.

55. (New) The method of claim 50 wherein the sleeve defines a circular opening configured to receive the fire-protection sprinkler head.

56. (New) The method of claim 50 wherein the plate and sleeve are an opening extending through the plate.

57. (New) The method of claim 50 comprising providing the plate with a plurality of sleeves.
58. (New) The method of claim 56 comprising providing the plate with a plurality of sleeves.
59. (New) The method of claim 50 comprising attaching the plate to the leg with a fixing device configured to allow the position of the plate along the length of the leg to be adjusted.
60. (New) The method of claim 50 further comprising providing a flexible sprinkler assemblage, the flexible sprinkler assemblage including the flexible conduit; and
attaching a fitting attached to the flexible conduit; and
attaching the sprinkler head to the fitting.
61. (New) The method of claim 50 wherein the fastening device is configured to allow the position of the support system to slidably move along the T-bar grid.
62. (New) The method of claim 50 wherein the fastening device is configured to remain fastened to the T-bar grid during a seismic event measuring 3.5 or greater on the richter scale.
63. (New) The method of claim 50 providing the fastening device with a clip.
64. (New) The method of claim 50 further comprising attaching a first end of a rod to the support system and attaching a second end to a building component.

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65. (New) The support system of claim 64 wherein the first end of the rod is attached to the plate.